

REMARKS

Applicants reply to the Office Action dated April 20, 2007, within the shortened three month statutory period for reply. Claims 1-22 were pending in the application and the Examiner rejects claims 1-22. Support for the amendments may be found in the originally-filed specification, claims, and figures. No new matter has been introduced by these amendments. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Objections to Claims

The Examiner objects to independent claims 9 and 19 due to informalities. Specifically, the Examiner notes that Applicants' use of the term "form the user" is incorrect. Applicants amend claims 9 and 19 to fix the typographical error and correctly recite "from the user."

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejects claims 1-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being unpatentable over Scolini et al., U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0233321 ("Scolini"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Scolini generally discloses an electronic, integrated invoice platform capable of incorporating complex large-scale hierarchical billing files from multiple legacy systems into a single data stream. The Scolini system processes this data stream to provide a view of the data according to an organization's hierarchical structure.

The Scolini system serves as an independent invoice platform that can connect with a number of banking systems and corporate legacy systems to retrieve data and compile billing statements and invoices on behalf of a number of large corporate clients. Scolini further discloses that the clients may interact with the invoice platform to obtain invoices by way of the Internet. As such, clients may access the Scolini system to perform, for example, customer service operations where fast access to account information is critical. While not explicitly disclosed, invoices may be formatted according to the client's needs and preferences. However, it is not clear whether this is completed through an online interface to the invoice platform, or by way of verbal communication. Through formatting indicators, the invoice platform is instructed as to how the invoices should be formatted. Moreover, Scolini discloses a number of various parameters that are used to collect data, organize data, and present the data to the client.

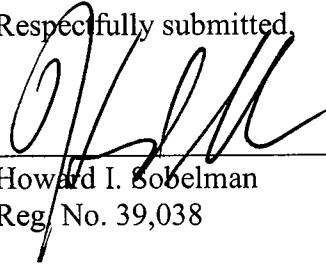
Scolini is primarily concerned with the problem of collecting and combining large amounts of data and presenting it to clients in a convenient and understandable manner (e.g.,

presentation). **However, Scolini is not concerned with collecting and storing data that is more processing descriptive in nature (e.g., metadata). This is data that may not appear within a statement or invoice, but may be used by the system to control, for example, tasks that follow the generation of electronic statements (e.g., distribution, review by designated employees, etc.).** As such, Scolini does not disclose or suggest at least, "retrieving statement parameters, wherein the statement parameters include a recipient list, statement description, statement type, statement status, a number of copies to be generated, a designation for corporate review, and a designation for internal copies," as similarly recited by independent claims 1, 11, and 21.

Dependent claims 2-10, 12-20, and 22 variously depend from independent claims 1, 11, and 21. As such, dependent claims 2-10, 12-20, and 22 are allowable for at least the reasons set forth above, as well as in view of their own respective features.

In view of the above remarks and amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims properly set forth that which Applicant regards as his invention and are allowable over the cited references. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the pending claims. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the Examiner's convenience, if that would help further prosecution of the subject application. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees due to Deposit Account No. 19-2814.

Respectfully submitted,



Howard I. Sobelman
Reg. No. 39,038

Dated: July 18, 2007

SNELL & WILMER L.L.P.
400 E. Van Buren
One Arizona Center
Phoenix, Arizona 85004
Phone: 602-382-6228
Fax: 602-382-6070
Email: hsobelman@swlaw.com